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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Nicaragua	REPORT NO.	25A1A
SUBJECT	Activities of the Partido Socialista de Nicaragua (PSN)	DATE DISTR.	7 August 1953
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Communist Peace campaign in Nicaragua continues to meet with failure, since very few persons were willing to sign the Peace Manifesto. Three signatures were obtained in Leon, none in Corinto, and few in Masaya, the birthplace of the Partido Socialista de Nicaragua (PSN, Communist Party of Nicaragua). Signatures were sought mainly among members of the Liberal Independent Party, but the reaction of many persons approached was that, if Nicaragua must be subservient to a foreign power, it would not be to Russia. As a result of the failure to secure a sizeable number of signatures, coupled with the Nicaraguan Government's investigation of the PSN publication Orientacion, it has been decided by the PSN not to publish the Peace Manifesto.
 2. The PSN publication Orientacion was issued weekly from 19 April to 7 June 1953, but on 11 June the government suppressed publication on the contention that it was a publication of a political party with international connections and as such was prohibited by the Nicaraguan Constitution. PSN leaders went into hiding, fearing that this was the beginning of widespread persecution. Later, when it appeared that no further action was to be taken other than an investigation, they came out of hiding and submitted themselves to the police for questioning. Juan LORIO, secretary-general of the Executive Committee of the PSN, was extremely disgusted with the management of Orientacion for the aggressive nature of the articles which led to its closing.
 3. The PSN leaders have continued to vacillate as to the attitude which should be taken towards the Peronistas. The election of officers of the Confederacion General de Trabajo (CGT), which took place on 19 April, resulted in the election of 15 Peronistas and only 3 PSN members. On 22 April the Board of Governors of the Casa del Obrero denied the use of the Casa to the CGT for a May Day meeting.

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As a result, the PSN leaders worked with the Peronistas in arranging a meeting which was held at the Teatro Alameda and agreed to let the Peronistas run the meeting. After the meeting started, the PSN members tried to assume control, and the result was a general dispute which subsided only when the police arrived and the PSN speaker, Adolfo GARCIA, left the hall. Since this occurrence there has been a strong division in the CGT between the PSN and Peronista members which has considerably weakened the CGT leadership.

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